

**GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL
EDUCATION
Legislative Committee**

**LOCATION
Governor's Council Conference Room
3601 C Street
Anchorage, Alaska
Teleconference**

**Meeting Date
January 15, 2013
1:00 p.m.**

Attendees:

Anthony Cravalho
Kathy Fitzgerald
David Flynn
Dean Gates
Eric Gebhart
Heidi Haas
Terese Kashi
Margaret Kossler
Karli Lopez
Ric Nelson

Staff:

Teresa Holt
Patrick Reinhart
Kalyssa Maile

Prepared by: Sheila Garrant,
Peninsula Reporting

CALL TO ORDER – 1:00 p.m.
ROLL CALL

Review of Council Mission Statement

Heidi Haas read the Council mission statement: Creating change that improves the lives of people with disabilities.

Welcome from the Chair

Announcements and Good News

Teresa Holt shared the good news that Christie Reinhardt is now staff at the Governor's Council.

Ric Nelson shared the good news that he is now in the last semester of college.

Patrick Reinhart announced that the Alaska Employment Initiative Grant Advisory Board is in need of at least three employed individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities and three family members to participate in three meetings a year, the first meeting in Anchorage March 5th and 6th.

Approval of Agenda

Declaration of any Conflict of Interest on Agenda Items

Hearing no declarations of any conflicts of interest on agenda items, Karli Lopez **MOVED** to approve the agenda. Teresa Holt asked to add a Key Campaign report to the agenda. Kathy Fitzgerald **MOVED** to approve the agenda with the addition. Hearing no objections, the motion **PASSED**.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Eric Gebhart **MOVED** to approve the previous meeting minutes as presented. Hearing no objections, the motion **PASSED**.

Correspondence

Teresa Holt informed the committee that the Governor's budget did include \$1.5 million for Infant Learning Programs.

Preparation for the Council Meeting

Review of Council Member Preparation

Teresa Holt updated the committee on the Executive Committee's priorities, noting that some of the focus has changed.

1. Complex Behavior Collaborative
2. SESA reauthorization and funding increase
3. Employment – support an increment of \$500,000 for the supported employment grant
4. ILP funding

Kalyssa Maile reported that she is working on the list of legislators, committee assignments, room numbers and legislator bios, but because it is the beginning of a new session and those arrangements and appointments are still being adjusted, that information will continue to change right up to the end, so the legislative packets will not be finalized until shortly before the meeting. She will be working diligently to have those complete and correct for Council members.

Kalyssa Maile reviewed the PowerPoint about meeting with the legislators. This PowerPoint includes helpful information to prepare members for meeting with the legislators; what to have for the meeting, finding your team leader, deciding who will discuss each topic within your team, check in with legislative staff, sign guest book, meeting instructions, after meeting debriefing, and a list of dos and don'ts. Teresa Holt noted that the debriefing piece this year will be more intensive in that instead of waiting until the last day of meetings, Kalyssa and one other staff person will posted at the desk on the second floor lounge so that people can come back right after their meeting, give their feedback, sign cards and write personal notes while it is fresh in their minds.

Review Legislative Packets

There was a discussion by the committee members regarding legislator visit assignments. Some members felt that having a connection with a legislator is key for constructive advocacy, and others expressed that the advocacy may be more effective without a personal connection. Teresa Holt noted that the assignments would be made in advance and adjustments can be made.

Key Campaign Report

Teresa Holt updated the committee regarding Key Campaign's five priorities:

1. Rate review in statute
2. ILP funding at 1.5 %
3. Complex Behavior Collaborative
4. Supported employment grant funds for DD
5. Eradication of the wait list

Teresa Holt noted that they also have an "in addition" list that includes SESA reauthorization, Employment First legislation, and a respectful language bill that takes mental retardation out of the statutes and regulations.

Teresa Holt reminded the group that there possibly a conservative finance committee on the Senate side, so it has been suggested that strategies this session should include doing constituent visits, doing pre-work, visiting often, and follow up.

Time and Date of Next Meeting

The next Legislative Committee meeting is scheduled for February 26th, 2013 at 1:00 p.m.

Adjournment

Heidi Hass **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting. The motion **PASSED**, and the meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m.